

festival

Reviving the Traditional Theatre

Folk drama festival off to a grand start at the Mahanagar Natya Mancha

By Tawfique Ali

THE ten-day long Folk Drama Festival organised by the theatre group Mahakal Natya Sampraday, first ever in the country, began on November 1 at Mahanagar Natya Mancha, Gulistan.

The slogan of the festival, "wherever we are, we are spiritually bound to each other," which speaks volumes about the spirit of the carnivalesque mood of the 19th century, was formally inaugurated on November 1 at 5pm by Food Minister Amir Hossain Amu as chief guest. Among others, DG of National Museum Shamsuzzaman Khan, GS of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation Liakat Ali Lucky and Golam Kuddus of Sammilita Sangskritik Jote were present as discussants.

The inaugural programme was presided over by Saiful Islam Mahmud. After the chief guest declared the festival open, Dashrath Das and his troupe started a drum recital to mark a

happy inauguration. Mahakal Natya Sampraday presented Sunai Kanyar Pala on the inaugural evening.

Everyday the festival proceedings will start with an open air presentation of folk songs at 4pm.

The discussants highlighted the history and development of folk theatrical forms, pointing at its political and social perspectives, in the country since the independence in 1971.

Drama is a very powerful genre of creative arts which indirectly and sometimes directly hints at the social incongruities, exploitations, religious hypocrisy and obscurantism. It poignantly brings into fore the social inequality and deceit. In many a society theatre is censored mainly because it can provoke the audience about the social injustice and light the spark of awareness of many inconsistencies in a society. Theatre has been used as a modicum of social resistance against despotism and fanaticism.

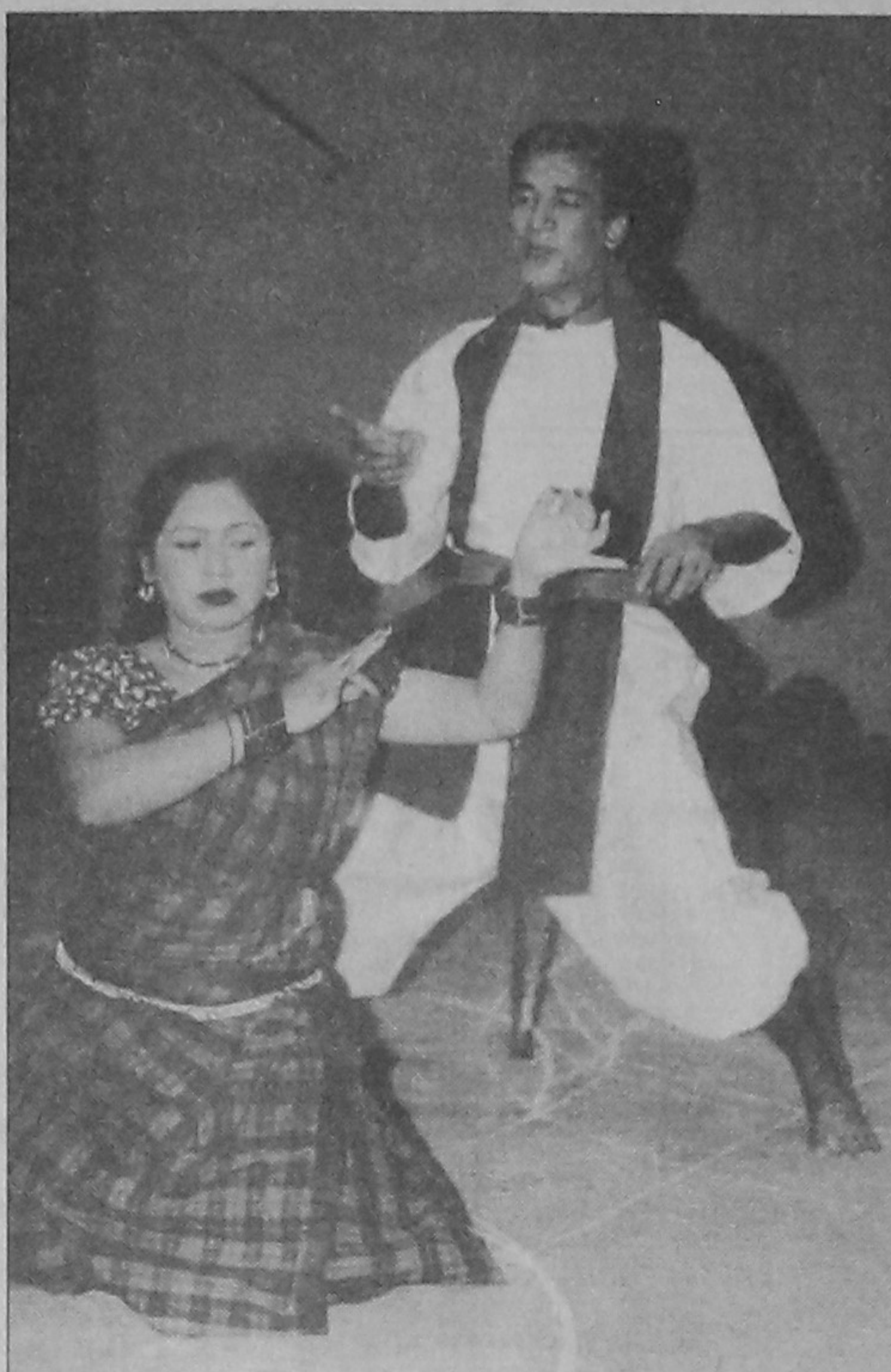
The discussants at the

programme, unequivocally made this very point while focusing on different aspects and progression of the traditional theatre in the country.

Shamsuzzaman Khan termed the Drama Festival as a well-thought out initiative and said that the organisers of the festival deserved kudos. "Arrangements like this will help flourish national culture. This festival will provide a fantastic platform for further development of national folk culture. We must not forget that Bangladeshi culture is basically folk culture," he said.

He further added that a tradition remains alive with the intimate interaction of the audience and the cultural activists. The organisers are the active agents who are keeping the tradition alive and creating scopes for the audience to have a taste of our traditional theatre.

Liakat Ali Lucky said, "A nation is known by its theatre. And this festival offers a fantastic opportunity to the theatre-goers to refresh their aesthetic taste of



A sequence from Sunai Kanyar Pala presented by Mahakal Natya Sampraday

our folk theatre."

The speakers at the inaugural of the festival emphasised the need of state patronization for the survival of this folk art form. Liakat expressed his hearty gratitude to the government and the City Corporation for constructing a modern theatre stage like Mahanagar Natya Mancha. "This stage is a remarkable incentive to our theatre movement. If duly patronized, the theatre workers can turn the city of Dhaka into a theatre city."

Golam Kuddus said that the aping of foreign culture will ultimately render us culturally bankrupt. "This is disgraceful and a will pose threat national identity. We believe, that only strong national culture can make the nation proud," he noted.

The main objective of the festival is to highlight the point that drama is not only an entertainment, it has a social commitment to perform. To uphold the identity of our nation in the world, we are to cherish our own cultural tradition. Drama reflects not only the life of an individual but it's a mirror to the society.

endeavour

Having a Lavender Experience

The convenient store in town



Minister for civil Aviation and Tourism and works Engineer Mosharraf Hossain delivering his speech

By Nafid Imran Ahmed

EVERYONE is familiar with the franchise fast food shop Wimpy. One of the finest fast food shops in the country. Well it would be more happy situation if people would get a chance to shop at their will and have a bite at their favourite burger. Lavender promises just that.

A convenient store at Wimpy complex, Lavender started its journey on October 30. It has all the making to become a shoppers paradise. Lavender was inaugurated by Minister for civil Aviation and Tourism and works Engineer Mosharraf Hossain.

This store has a very cozy environment and almost has all the daily household items. For the past 2 3 years' cosmopolitan life of our city has dreamed of

such a shopping arena. Since then an elegant group of the country planned a convenient store, which will contain everything starting from grocery to classic gifts and in addition to it there will also be a unique shopping environment.

Lavender is just that. It is small departmental store with a variety of sections and items. One will find jewelry, cosmetics, ceramics, grocery, frozen items, kitchen items, childrenwear, toys and many other things.

It is a fixed prices store, fully air-conditioned and a hygienic interior. The store will also be opened for late night customers.

All in all Lavender is not just a shopping store, it is mostly about safety, comfort and assurance for the local and the foreign customers of the country. There is no doubt that it will serve its purpose completely.



Lubna Ahmed, director Lavender at the inaugural ceremony

Recommendations

বিশ্বশাহিত্যা কেন্দ্র

Workshop
Bishwashahittya Kendra Chalacitra Chakra has organised a workshop on Russian filmmaker Andre Tarkovsky's films and thoughts on November 3 at the Bishwashahittya Kendra premises at 5 in the evening.

The course is directed by Madan Gopal Sing, while Manjare Hasin Murad will be the discussant. The inaugural will be presided over by Dr Atiur Rahman.

1st Solo Photography

The inaugural ceremony of the eleven daylong 1st photography exhibition by Mustafa Faruque Wahid will be held at the Atrial Centre on November 4 at 5 in the evening. Eminent photographer Dr Nozesh ahmed will be present as chief guest. Artist Mustafa Manwar and Shamsuzzaman Khan director general, Bangladesh National Museum will also be present as special guests.

The exhibition will remain open everyday from 2 8 p.m.

Anniversary

A cultural function will be held at the Sufia Kamal auditorium of the National Museum to celebrate the 50th birth anniversary of poet, professor and the editor of Ekobingsho, Khondokar Ashraf Hossain today at 4:00p.m.

Poet Shamsur Rahman will be the chief guest, while the programme will be presided over by Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury. Shamsuzzaman Khan, poets Mahadev Shah, Mohammed Rafiq, Dr Rajib Humayun, Professor Abul Kasem Fazul Haq, Begum Aktar Kamal, Dr Syed Monzurul Islam among others will speak on the occasion. The poet's poems will be recited by eminent reciters of the country.

Recitation

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran started a weekly recitation and discussion programme from Masra'at of poet Maulana Jalaluddin Rumi at the counselor's office premises from November 1. Interested people are cordially invited to attend the function.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Tommy Boy

HBO tonight at 10

When Tommy Callahan (Chris Farley) graduates triumphantly after 7 years of college with a D+ average and returns to Sandusky, Ohio, no one is prouder than his father, or more surprised than his hometown. As proud successor of Callahan Auto Parts, young Tommy finds himself confronted with a buyout attempt spearheaded by his bachelorette stepmother and her devoted son (Rob Lowe). It soon becomes clear that the only way to save the plant and rest squarely on Tommy's round shoulders. Together with Richard Hayden (David Spade), the most efficient and obnoxious man in the company, they two hit the road. And the road hits back...with very hilarious results. Trust director Peter Segal (Naked Gun 33-1/3) to reunite the great comedy team of Farley and Spade. Tommy Boy stars Chris Farley, David Spade, Rob Lowe and others.

wood Squares 4:30
Home Improvement 5:30
Star News 5:30
Friends 6:00
Oprah 6:30
One On One 7:00
Governor George 7:30
George W Bush 7:30
French and Saunders 7:30
Blackadder Goes Forth 8:00
Murder Call 9:00
Friends 9:30
Star News 10:00
Oprah 10:30
One On One 11:00
Governor George 11:30
George W Bush 11:30
Goodness Gracious 12:00
Blackadder Goes Forth 12:30
Rock from the Sun 12:30
French and Saunders 1:00
Murder Call 2:00
Goodness

Gracious Me 2:30
Blackadder Goes Forth 3:00
Morris Cerullo 3:30
Exalted World 4:00
Creflo Dollar, Changing Your World 4:30
World News 5:00
Outback Adventure

STAR MOVIES

7:30 Thriller: Random encounter PG 9:30
Thriller: Sealed With A Kiss 11:30
Comedy: Missing Pieces 15:00
Midday Movie: IL Postino PG 3:00
drama: Before and After 4:45
thriller: Running Wild 5:00
Drama: The Sunchaser 15:30
Bhaskar Ghose

Show 10:00 Friday Night All Stars: Red Sonja PG 1985 12:00
Friday Fury: The Big Boss 15 2:00 Action: Shotgun 4:00 Action: Baged of Betrayal 15 5:30
Drama the Sunchaser 15

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6:30 Go For It! 7:30 Ushuaia 8:30 Lonely Planet 9:30 Assignment 10:30 Danger Zone 11:00 Outer Bounds 11:30 Shark Files 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Medical Detectives 2:30 Discover Magazine 3:30 Go For It! 4:30 Ushuaia 5:30 Lonely Planet 6:30 Bonehead Detectives of the Paleoworld 7:00 Mega Movie Magic II 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:30 Ultimate Guide 9:30 Future Tense 10:00 Seatek II 10:30 India Hour: Gulistan 11:30 Discovery Profile Series: 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Untamed Guide 2:30 Future Tense 3:00 Seatek II 3:30 India Hour: Gulistan 4:30 Discovery Profile Series: 5:30 Discover Magazine

HBO

6:30 Cast a deadly Spell 8:30 Into Thin Air: Death On Everest 10:15 National Lampoon's Vacation 12:15 "Prince of the City" 3:45 Kung Fu: The Movie 5:45 Daybreak 7:45 Point of No Return 10:00 Tommy Boy 12:00 Dracula Dead and Loving It 1:45 "Prince of the City" 5:15 Into Thin Air: Death On Everest

STAR GOLD

5:30 Hare Kanch Ki Chooriyaan 8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Jeene Ki Raah 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Ek Duj Ke Liye 3:30 Bollywood News 4:00 Samadhi 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Shaandar Shukrawaar-Sadural

10:30 Bollywood News 11:00 Raj Tilak 12:30 Raj Tilak (contd) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Samadhi

BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC World News 6:30 World Business Report 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 Asia Today /Asia Business Report 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today /Asia Business Report 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Asia Today 9:45 Asia Business Report 10:00 BBC News 10:30 HARDtalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Living: Click Online (Presenter: Stephen Cole) 12:00 BBC World News 12:30 Made In India: IT: India Tomorrow 1:30 BBC World News 1:30 HARDtalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Focus: Quest's Quiet 3:30 HARDtalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: Talking Movies (Presenter: Tom Brook) 5:00 BBC World News 5:30 World Focus: Quest's Quiet 6:00 World Headlines 6:30 Made In India: IT: India Tomorrow 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 World Living: Talking Movies (Presenter: Tom Brook) 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 HARDtalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC World News 10:15 World Business Report 10:30 Question Time India 11:00 World Living: Top Gear 12:35 World Business Report 12:45 World Sport 1:00 World News 1:30 HARDtalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 2:30 World Living: Life-Keeping Tabs 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 World Business Report 4:30 Correspondent-5:00 BBC News inc.

World Business Report /USA Direct/Asia

STARSPORTS

7:00 Live- Nba Basketball San Antonio, TX USA- Minnesota Timberwolves Vs San Antonio Spurs 9:30 Sport News- Sportsline Today 10:30 Cricket Magazine Stumped- Batsmen Vs Bowlers 11:00 Tennis- Wta Tour Generali Ladies Linz, AUSTRIA Semifinal 12:30 Sport News- Sportsline Today 1:00 Pga Tour Highlights National Car Rental Golf Classic At Disney World Lake Buena Vista, FL USA 2:00 Soccer The Match Of The Century: Passarella 2:30 Cricket Magazine Stumped- Batsmen Vs Bowlers 3:00 National Sports Report 4:00 Asian

ESPN

7:00 Western Union World Football 7:30 Italian Football Hilites Italian Serie A

Friday Drama: Abhinandan

will be aired on Ekushey television tonight at 9. Written by Chakanika Chowdhury and directed by satirha Rahman the drama stars Azizul Hakim, Tamalika Karmakar, Bonnya Mirza and others.

Festival Of Speed

Asian Formula 2000 Int'L Series Zhuhai, CHINA Rounds Eleven & Twelve 5:00 Sbk Superbike Season Review 6:00 Nba Basketball San Antonio, TX USA- Minnesota Timberwolves Vs San Antonio Spurs 8:00 Live Sport News- Sportsline Tonight 8:30 Spanish Football



Goodness Gracious Me on Star World tonight at 11

League 2000/01 10:30 Sport News- Sportsline Tonight 11:00 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire 12:00 Sport News- Sportsline Tonight 12:30 Inside The Pga Tour

By Eurocard Stuttgart, GERMANY Early Round Coverage Day #4 1:00 Live- Sportscenter Bristol, CT USA 2:00 English Premier League Highlights 3:00 Pba Basketball Pba Governors Cup Game #4 6:00 Pro Billiards 2000 Int'L Challenge Of Champions Uncasville, CT USA Finals 7:00 ATP Tennis Show 7:30 World Of Rugby The Irb's World Of Rugby 8:00 Italian Serie A Football Italian Serie A 2000/2001 10:00 Tennis Masters Series By Eurocard Stuttgart, GERMANY Men's Quarterfinal Match 12:00 Tennis Masters Series By Eurocard Stuttgart, GERMANY Men's Quarterfinal Match



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2000/2001 Highlights

8:30 Extreme Sports- Asa World Tour 2000 Asa Inline Pro Tour Stop 6 Street London, ENGLAND 10:00 Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour Pwba Bowling - Three Rivers Open Pittsburgh, PA USA 11:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Stuttgart Pres. By Eurocard Stuttgart, GERMANY Men's Quarterfinal Match

Murder Call on Star World at 1:00a.m

BTV

Morning Prog. 9:00 Opening Announcement- Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 9:05 Patriotic Song 9:10 Bangla News 9:15 Aalor Dishari (Islami Education For Children) 9:35 NHK Programme 10:00 The

(Morden Songs) 7:25

Serial On Nature- Raong Kara Putul 8:00 Bangla News At 8:20 Serial On Health- Timirachanno #24 8:50 Drama Series: Gul Sanobar (Bangla Dubb) 9:00 Chhaya Mela (Film Based) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:20 English Series: The X-Files



Hiasan of Ark will appear in Virgin Takdhum Takdhum, tonight on Ekushey television at 8:30

News 10:05 Cirrajagat / Shuvo Sakal 10:30 Mithsriya (Talk Show) 10:55 Computer (Programme On Computer) 11:20 Aye Prithibi (Programme On Nature) 11:45 Drishti paat (Programme On Human Rights) 12:10 Pusti Tattho 12:25 A) Programme Outline For 2nd Session B) National Song 12:30 Closing Evening Prog. 3:00 Opening Announcement- Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 3:15 Patriotic Song 3:20 Bangla Film: 4:00 Bangla News 4:05 Bangla Film Cont: 6:00 Bangla News 6:05 Sukhi Panbar (Population Based Prog) 6:30 Transmission From Chittagong Center 7:00 News For Weather 7:05 Maloncho

11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40 A) Programme Outline For Saturday B) National Song 11:45 Closing

EKUSHEY TV

2:00 Aker Potrikay 2:10 Shorashori 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Meizan Roshonar Bashona 3:30 Bangla Movie: 5:50 Aker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 The Big Fight 6:30 Gillette World Sports Special 7:00 Pepsodent Braincheck 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Shofol Jara Kemon Tara 8:30 Virgin Takdhum Takdhum 9:00 Shokrobabar Natok: Abhinandan Script: Chayanika Chowdhury Director: Satirha Rahman Starring: Azizul Hakim, Tamalika Karmakar Bonna

Mirza, Doli Zohur

10:00 BTV News 10:20 Chirontoni 11:00 Late Night News 11:15 Ekushey News Headlines

SONYENT.TV

7:30 Amrit Varsha 8:00 Sant Asaram Wani 8:30 Music Mantra 9:00 Good Morning Disney 10:00 Family No.1 10:30 Boogi Woogi 11:00 Just Mohabbat 11:30 Daily Soap- Imtihaan 12:00 Daily Soap: Ithaas 12:30 Movers & Shakers 1:00 Chartisters 1:30 Cook It Up With Tarla Dalal 2:00 Boogi Woogi 2:30 Daily Soap- Imtihaan 3:00 Daily Soap: Aurat 3:30 Daily Soap: Ghar Ek Mandir 4:00 Daily Soap: Nazdeekiyan 4:30 Daily Soap: Ithaas 5:00 Daily Soap: Joonoon 5:30 Chartisters 6:00 Music Mantra 6:30 Disney Hour 7:30 Boogi Woogi 8:00 Mera Aangan Mein 8:30 Cats 9:10 Heena 9:50 Ek Mahal Ho Sapna Ka 10:30 Tujh Pe Dil Queran 11:10 Movers & Shakers 12:00 Daily Soap: Nazdeekiyan 12:30 Saaya 1:00 Choodiyan 1:30 Missing 2:00 Yeh Duniya Hai Rangeen 2:30 Movers & Shakers 3:00 Rang Birangee 3:30 Cine Nite-Film.

ZEE TV

6:15 Yeason Ki Pal (B/W Song) 6:45 Old Is Gold 7:00 Bhakti Songs 7:30 Jagran 7:55 Fitness Plus 8:05 Breakfast Zee (News, Views & Chat) 9:00 Goldusta 9:30 Nicolodion Kid's show 10:30 Ek Nazar 11:00 Pictionary Game Show 11:30 Samay 12:10 Sound of Music 12:10 Naye 12:40 Boumvita Quiz Contest 1:10 Zee For U 1:40 Jhalak 1:45 Daily Soap- Hasrateen #60 2:25 Saath Saath 3:00 Daily Soap- Kartavya 3:30 Daily Soap- Adhikar



Blackadder Goes Forth on Star World tonight at 11:30